

PRINCETON'S NEW \$1,000,000 CHAPEL AN ART GEM

Building to Replace the Fire Razed Marquand Structure Planned by Ralph Adams Cram, Authority on Gothic Architecture

GOING back some six centuries in style, a medieval chapel is to be built on the Princeton University campus, according to plans drawn up by Ralph Adams Cram of Boston, the foremost American architect and authority on Gothic architecture. Rising seventy-six feet from the floor of the nave to the crown of its vaulting, this beautiful structure, modelled strictly on the best Gothic traditions, will afford to Americans an opportunity to see the architecture of the Middle Ages without a long trip overseas.

Princeton, already the home of remarkable collegiate Gothic dormitories and recitation buildings, plans to build this chapel as the crowning of an architectural development here which started when former President Woodrow Wilson was at the head of the university. The cost for the building alone, exclusive of that for magnificent glass windows which will require years to complete and install, will be more than \$1,000,000.

Visitors to England bear in mind the beautiful college chapels of Oxford and Cambridge, particularly that of King's College, Cambridge, rightly described as the crowning glory of that university. While the Princeton chapel plans follow this great tradition, it is not a copy of any existing building nor a combination of certain features of many. It is rather intended to bring to its highest point the already fine architectural development of Princeton and to be a piece of creative art based on the best that the past has handed down.

When the visitor enters at the west end of the chapel he will step almost immediately into the great nave, which runs without a break to the crossing. There will be no real transepts, as is the case in a cathedral church, but the plan will follow the collegiate chapels in dispensing with what is not suitable for this purpose.

At the crossing there will be an open screen, and within this will be held the daily chapel services for a much smaller number than on Sunday. A separate pulpit will be provided, just as in the great English cathedrals.

In the Very Centre of Campus.

Near Burned Marquand Chapel

The new chapel will be situated in the very centre of the campus and will form the third side of a quadrangle, the other sides of which will be occupied by the present McCosh Hall and subsequent additions to be made to this structure. The side of the quadrangle toward Nassau Hall will be formed by cloisters, while in the centre there is the Corpus Christi sun dial, presented to Princeton by Oxford. This site is near to that of the old Marquand Chapel, burned down in the disastrous fire in May, 1919.

Ever since the fire Sunday chapel has been held perforce in Alexander Hall, a building designed more for a general auditorium than a chapel, and thus unsatisfactory.

Funds for the new chapel have not yet been provided, but it is expected that they will be subscribed by alumni or friends of the university who both recognize the need and also what a monumental addition this will be to American architecture.

The vaulting proposed is almost unique, being a combination of the best French and English Gothic plans. The vaults are of the *herne* type, offering much space for great stained glass windows, but the vaulting shafts are brought down the sides of the pillars in the nave and grounded on the floor.

It is probable that the stained glass windows may take the form of memorials of various classes to their members who died in war service. In his statement issued in regard to the new chapel President John Grier Hibben first calls attention to the great need existing now that Marquand Chapel has been destroyed, and states his belief that the proposed structure will be a great incentive to the spiritual life of the university.

Dr. Hibben, University Head,

Tells of Its Adaptability

"We purpose that this new chapel shall be beautiful within and without," he says, "the consummation of Princeton's architectural endeavor and achievement, so that all who come and go, the casual visitor as well as those who regularly worship there, will inevitably recognize in this building the symbol of the beauty of holiness. It is to be adapted to all our religious needs, with ample provision for the large congregation of Sunday mornings, and also there will be planned an appropriate place, a chapel within the larger chapel, for our week day service of prayer."

"The thoughts and feelings of youth are peculiarly sensitive to their surroundings, and a new meaning will be imparted to their interpretation of the things unseen and eternal as they come by daily association to recognize the new Princeton chapel as the university's protest against the materialistic philosophy and drift of our age, the symbol of the higher aspirations of man, a refuge for quiet thought and contemplation, 'a house of ancient mystery,' the holy place of God."

The architects, Cram & Ferguson, made the following statement regarding the new chapel:

"The designs for the proposed chapel must be considered as in a sense tentative, in that they are held subject to that further study and revision which must always take place in the final development of the working plans for any scheme of such magnitude and significance. Furthermore, the interests that assemble around the project are so multitudinous in number and so keen in their personality that they must of necessity have their influence on the final result. An under-

Front view, from the architects' drawings, of the new \$1,000,000 chapel for Princeton University. Ralph Adams Cram of Cram & Ferguson, authority on Gothic architecture, says the new building will be the second largest college chapel in the world. Below is shown the architect's drawing of the interior. Inside the chapel will be 76 feet high and 270 feet long.



pect either copies of any existing chapel or a synthesis of many.

"The plan is the traditional plan of the college chapel as this worked itself out to its culmination in the great chapel of King's College, Cambridge—that is to say, a long, lofty and comparatively narrow area, in which are assembled all the seats for clergy, faculty and students, a plan without transepts or aisles in the sense in which these are found in cathedrals and parish churches. Naturally, this form gives the best practical results, both in point of seeing and hearing. This would necessarily be the case, since the great churches of the Middle Ages were conceived and constructed with particular reference to great preaching services."

Chapel's Enormous Dimensions

Equal Those of King's Chapel

The nave of Princeton chapel has a width between the columns of forty feet and a total width of fifty-eight feet. Its interior length from wall to wall is 270 feet. Its height from the pavement to the crown of the vault is seventy-six feet. This is just about the width and height of King's College Chapel, Cambridge, while the length is

taking such as this is one greater than the capacities of any architect, and the building itself must represent the enthusiastic cooperation of those poignant interests which are involved.

"The design indicates both a definite principle and the present conviction of the architects as to the general form in which these should be expressed, and it is hoped that the designs will be considered in this sense."

"It is hardly necessary to say that the chapel for Princeton University should gather up, epitomize and in a sense glorify the whole architectural quality of the university, which, developed by many hands

during the last twenty years, has given it a unique position among American institutions of higher learning, and that in doing so it should play the same part with regard to the university itself. If there is to be a chapel at all it must be in spirit and in form all that is possible at the hands of the architects and the university. In other words, it must be, insofar as this is attainable, a great and lasting example of religious art linked with the highest standards of secular education."

"It cannot be a bare and mechanistic auditorium; it must unite itself with all the great traditions of Christian architecture and yet adapt itself to the changed condi-

tions of the world. This means the striking of some workable balance between archaology and creative art—a task of enormous magnitude and one which can be successfully accomplished only through the intimate cooperation of all those who are interested in the work."

"Very fortunately, there exist in England and elsewhere many examples of the most consummate type of ecclesiastical architecture associated with a university. The college chapels of Oxford and Cambridge are among the greatest products of Christian art. The designs for the proposed Princeton chapel follow closely those lines already established, yet they are in no re-

One of New York's Literary Shrines

By AGNES D. CAMP.

OF the many literary shrines in New York none appeals as deeply to the heart and imagination of the pilgrim as that of Joseph Rodman Drake. The poet's death, from consumption, at 25 and his gentle nature as described by his devoted friend, Fitz-Greene Halleck, touches a tender chord in every heart.

As one revels in the pastoral, romantic and patriotic lines of "Bronx," "Culprit Fay" and "The American Flag," he wonders to what heights such genius might have soared had Providence willed it. Halleck described his friend as "perhaps the handsomest man in New York—a face like an angel, a form like Apollo, and as I well know, that his person is the true index of his mind." This is in contrast to what Drake wrote of himself:

"Too dull to be witty, too wild to be grave. Too poor to be honest, too proud for a knave. In short, a mere chaos, without form or rule, who approaches to all things, but nearest a fool."

Near the river end of Hunt's Point road

Lincoln's Deathbed

FURTHER light has just been thrown on Abraham Lincoln's deathbed. This was recently brought to the fore by the statement that there was in the Alms-house on Welfare Island a man in whose bed the President died. This was disproved by a story which showed conclusively that Mr. Lincoln died in the bed of F. T. Clark. It is true that the Welfare Island man, Proctor, was present when Mr. Lincoln passed away, but he was only one of the group in Clark's room.

Recently, Mr. L. C. Lepage of Rutherford, N. J., visited THE SUNDAY HERALD and verified absolutely that Abraham Lincoln had died in Clark's bed. Mr. Lepage was a fellow clerk of Clark's in the Government service in Washington at the time and he received from Clark a piece of a towel stained with Lincoln's blood. He has been with R. G. Dun & Co. for more than fifty years and is still in their active service. He says there is no doubt that Abraham Lincoln died in Clark's bed—not in Proctor's—though both had rooms in the same house opposite Ford's Theatre, where the assassination took place.

"Green be the turf above thee,
Friend of my better days;
None knew thee but to love thee
Nor named thee but to praise."

For the moment one fancies that the spirit of the man who sang "My Own Romantic Bronx" still hovers over the spot; and with a little more imagination the ugliness of the place disappears and in fancy you hear the "humbird, the bluebird and the antic squirrel," and you see the boy Drake rowing his boat in and out of the inlets of the upper East River or resting on his oars in the shade of an alder along the river's bank. It was the environs of Hunt's Point which gave inspiration to his verse, and which later became his home, when after his marriage he occupied the old Hunt mansion. The old house is now in the last stage of dejection.

While Drake still belonged to the class of men who, De Quincey says, "have not the advantage of being dead," he kept a drug store at 34 Park Row, one door from Beekman street, New York, where he died in 1820. There is nothing about the five storied office building, the lunch room nor the orange juice

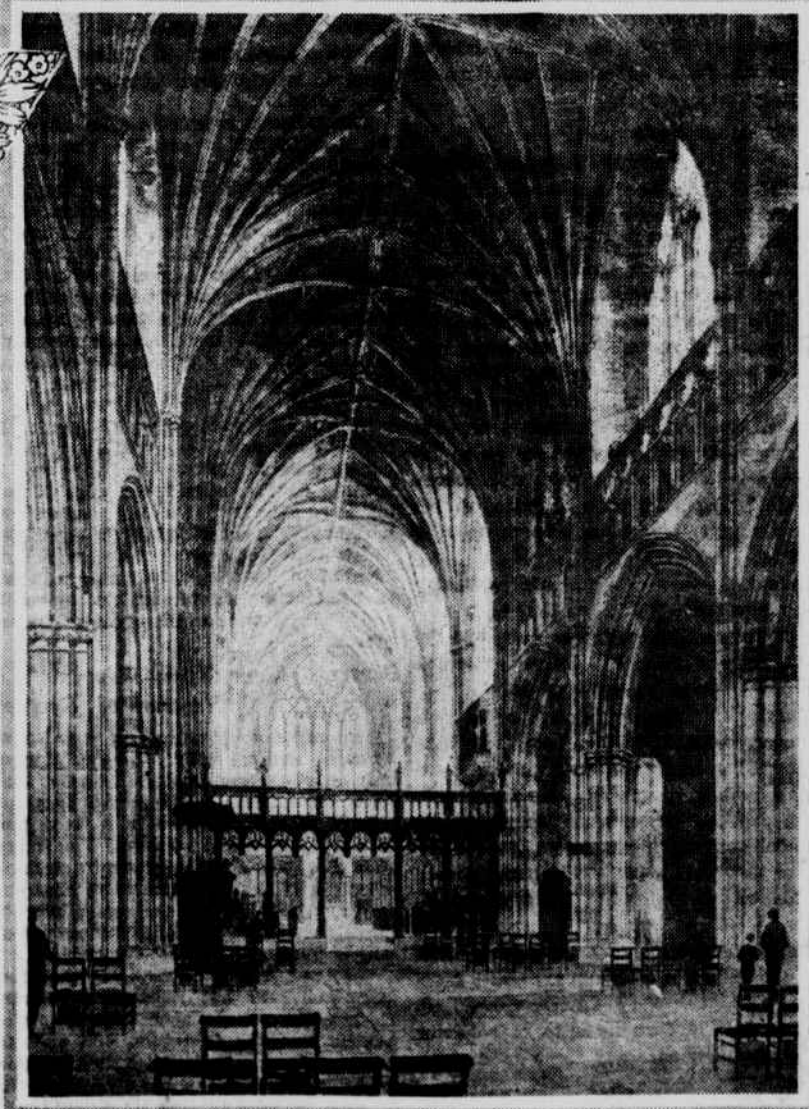
counter at 34 Park Row to remind the passerby that America's first romantic poetry dreamed out in a drug store on that spot where, according to a writer of the period, were sold "all the valuable accessories of a chemist and druggist."

Straw Motor Gas

A NEW gas, obtained by the distinctive distillation of various straws such as wheat, oat and rye straws, has been produced by the United States Government at one of its experimental farms at Arlington, Va. Some of the interesting results are as follows:

An automobile has been operated with the new combustible, and it has been used for illuminating purposes as well as for cooking, but the possibilities of straw gas have not yet been fully determined. In order to determine the exact commercial value of the gas further tests are in contemplation. It is intended to carry out work which will determine the quantity and nature of the gas that may be obtained from wheat, oat, barley, rye and rice straws, and from cornstalks, corncocks and other vegetable matter usually burned as waste. If the results of these tests warrant further investigation the experiments will be extended to the problem of plant equipment for producing the gas on a scale sufficient to allow a farmer to supply light and heat for his house, power for stationary engines and possibly for his tractor from a small individual outfit.

Several valuable byproducts are obtained in the manufacture of the gas. There is the carbon residue, which is suitable for manufacturing lampblack of exceptionally fine quality and which contains certain amounts of potash, phosphates and nitrogenous compounds which give it fertilizing value; and there are also the tar and ammoniacal liquids. It is pointed out that, while it has been possible to operate an automobile with straw gas and it is known that five pounds of straw will produce about 200 c. ft. of gas, the problem of reducing the gas to liquid form or condensing it sufficiently to allow it to be carried conveniently is an essential one that must be solved before gas can be considered as a possible motor fuel.



only about twenty feet less. The chapel would then stand as the second largest in the world.

Unlike other college chapels, Princeton's chapel has been given narrow aisles without seats and used primarily as ambulatories. These are pierced through the base of the buttresses that support the vaulting, and they open at the eastern end into small pseudo-transepts on either side of the entrance to the choir or day chapel, the latter having no aisles.

While the chapel extends in unbroken length and unchanged width from end to end, the easterly third is set off from the main body by an open screen, the intention being that this easterly third, or day chapel, should be used for the daily services, seating normally 170 persons in stalls arranged choir fashion. This seating capacity could be doubled, should the necessity arise, by the placing of chairs in the wide, open area between the two files of the stalls. This day chapel would have its own pulpit, and a comparatively small number of students assembled here would not have the effect of being lost, as would the same number distributed casually throughout the entire chapel.

On those occasions when the whole faculty and student body would be present the faculty would occupy the rear row of stalls which surround the choir on three sides, while the other seats would be used by choristers and possibly by the members of the

Will Be Exceeded in Size Only by King's College Chapel in Cambridge, and Will Offer Ample Chance for University Memorials

senior class. The great body of students would occupy the main portion, or nave.

Alongside the choir on the south are arranged the necessary vestries, connecting both with the choir and the main body of the chapel, while a broad stairway descends to the crypt under the choir, which, owing to the fall in the ground, will be adequately lighted. This crypt could be used for many kinds of religious conferences and other meetings and also as a place of assembly for the student body in preparation for academic processions.

"The pseudo-transepts," say the architects, "provide on an upper level for the great organ, divided in halves so that it can be played antiphonally, while there would also be a third organ at the westerly end in the large gallery over the vestibule. It is believed that these transeptal organs are best placed for effectiveness in all services."

In No Respect a Cathedral, But Purely of Chapel Type

"In its exterior design the chapel is conspicuously this and in no respect a cathedral or a parish church. It has no tower, and the pseudo-transepts, being only one bay in width, do not break the continuity of the lateral walls, which are divided into thirteen bays, twenty-two feet on centres. Every effort has been made to obtain an effect of dignity and impressiveness through grandeur of mass and simplicity of form."

"The architectural style is based on that of the fourteenth century in England, a style generally accepted as representing the highest point achieved by Christian architecture in Great Britain. There are, of course, many modifications and variants from any existing types and the building does not conform closely to any established model, though it has in parts a certain relationship to Carleisle and the little known but exquisite fragment of Guisborough."

"The interior bears a certain resemblance to Exeter, which is generally accepted as the most beautiful interior in England. The order consists of a main arcade thirty-four feet to the apex of the arches, with large, traceried windows above the vault, and between a triforium with a passage through

the thickness of the walls. The vaulting is, like Exeter, of the *herne* type, perhaps the most beautiful ever devised, but the vaulting shafts are brought down and firmly grounded on the pavement after the French fashion."

"In the choir the windows are of much greater height than in the nave, forty-six feet in the clear from sill to apex, and divided into four sections by slender vertical mullions. The great east window is twenty feet wide and thirty-nine feet from the sill to the apex of the arch, while the west window is of the same width but somewhat shorter."

The architects also call attention to the great opportunities that are offered for class memorials by the many mullioned windows. The scheme for all this glass should be determined in advance in order that it may give a consistent showing of the Christian religion and its workings among all men and in all generations. The style should be based on that of the fourteenth century glass of England—e. g., that in the nave of York cathedral.

The material has not been determined. Stone would be employed throughout both the exterior and the interior, and the vaulting would be of masonry construction.

While well removed from the noise of Nassau street, the chapel will lift impressively above the trees, and will be visible from this point, while from the centre of the campus the west front will show clear to the south of the library and from as far away as Whig and Ohio Halls.